

House Resolution No. 4103

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives were truly saddened by the death of Show-Me State native LaVena Lynn Johnson on Tuesday, July 19, 2005, on the eve of her twentieth birthday; and

Whereas, born on July 27, 1985, LaVena Johnson was the beloved daughter of Dr. John H. and Linda Denise Johnson; loving sister of John Marcus, JaVince Matthew, Jermaine Myron, and Lekesha Floreece; niece of LaVern, Mattie, Lona, Rita, Fred, Jr., Randy, Alfred, Clyde, Jeffery, Joseph, David, and Jerry; and great-niece of Ruth, Reatha, Ardelia, and James; and

Whereas, LaVena Johnson was an outstanding honor student at Hazelwood Central High School where she received such accolades as a Missouri House of Representatives Certificate of Recognition, a DARE Certificate of Achievement, a Missouri Senate Outstanding Achievement award, a Hazelwood Central Academic Excellence Award, Orchestra and Music Achievement awards, Special Congressional Recognition, a Super Science Award, and membership in the Hawk Club (Magna Cum Laude); and

Whereas, the epitome of humility, LaVena Johnson enjoyed such simple pleasures in life as cooking for her family, experimenting with different recipes, recycling paper and plastics, giving canned goods to the Boy Scouts, donating her personal clothes to the needy, contributing blood at school, feeding the homeless, and fund-raising for charitable organizations; and

Whereas, LaVena Johnson loved playing the violin, but even more she loved her Lord Jesus Christ to whom she gave her heart at the tender age of eighteen at Shiloh Temple Church of God in Christ under the leadership of Pastor Marvin Sanders and to whom she contributed her musical talents through the venues of Youth Choir and Sunshine Band at Walnut Church of God in Christ; and

Whereas, LaVena Johnson joined the United States Army in 2004 with plans to use her time of patriotic military service as a means to further her own education and travel opportunities:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to memorialize the life and work of LaVena Johnson and to convey this legislative body's most heartfelt condolences to her family members, friends, neighbors, and colleagues who now miss her tremendous strength, warmth, and light in their daily lives; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in memory of LaVena Lynn Johnson of Saint Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Juanita Head Walton
District No. 81

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do
certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House
Resolution No. 4103, adopted July 28, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker